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will be impressed with the brilliancy of Scott's campaign in Mexico, and with the seriousness of the handicap imposed by political exigency upon the generals of a republic. The author's impatience, not to say intolerance, of the latter cannot be commended to an American officer aspiring to high command. There are statements of fact, too, and expressions of opinion, in which he is not altogether reliable.

On August 1, 1864, when Sheridan was detached from the Army of the Potomac to operate against Early in the Shenandoah Valley, Lee was not restricted, as is stated on page 218, to a single line of supply "running due west towards the valley of the Shenandoah". It is admitted a few lines further on that he still had an "avenue of supply and of escape" in the "line of rail running from Petersburg to Lynchburg". In addition, he had at this time the James River Canal, the Richmond and Danville railroad and the Weldon railroad.

It is stated on page 262 that Lee, in resigning his commission in April, 1861, "took the course that was followed by nearly every Southern officer in the United States army". At the outbreak of the Civil War most of the officers of the army were West Point graduates, and there are records to prove that one hundred and sixty-two who were appointed from the South, nearly half of the Southern graduates, remained loyal to the North.

In the Campaign of Chancellorsville, while Jackson was making his flank march towards Hooker's right, Lee remained with a fraction of his army in Hooker's front. This force the author gives on page 293 as a bare 10,000 men and on page 341 as only 10,000 bayonets. Allowing for losses in action the day before, the force under Lee must have numbered about 15,000 infantry besides six batteries of artillery (24 pieces) and a regiment and a half of cavalry.

It is stated that Jackson placed 25,000 men in line of battle in the rear of Howard's corps and of the whole Federal army. Jackson succeeded in placing about 20,000 infantry and some artillery on the flank—not in the rear—of Howard's corps. His artillery for the greater part, he could not use. Coming to the ignominious termination of this campaign, we read: "Hooker, for once, seized the opportunity and did the right thing with promptness: that night he decamped, and on the 6th of May was safely back on the northern bank of the Rappahannock." No greater blunder can be charged to Hooker than this final one. Had he been in position on the morning of his withdrawal, his long wished-for opportunity would have come. Lee would have attacked him on his own ground and would have been easily and sharply repulsed.

The Writings of Samuel Adams. Volume III. Collected and Edited by HARRY ALONZO CUSHING. (New York and London. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1907. Pp. xvii, 419.)

THIS volume is in some respects disappointing. The first two volumes were so well filled with papers of the first consequence that

one was unwisely tempted to hope that succeeding volumes would be of like character. We have here the writings from March, 1773, to December, 1777, years full of activity, danger and success. But while the progress of the Revolutionary movement up to 1774 can be traced in the letters and public papers that came from the ceaselessly flowing pen of Adams, as soon as the scene is shifted from Massachusetts to Philadelphia and we find ourselves in the midst of national politics and war, the letters of the great conspirator are of interest and of incidental assistance rather than of indispensable service to the historian of the period. There was in fact no wisdom in hoping that this third volume would contain the wealth of material found in the earlier ones. Those contained public papers, protests and resolutions of the town, scathing attacks on Bernard and Hutchinson, and comparatively few private letters. This volume contains chiefly private letters, some communications from the committee of correspondence and only a few public papers. In most cases the committee of correspondence contents itself with transmitting well-chosen periods concerning the value of civil liberty, the unpleasantness of arbitrary power and the worth of union and persistence. The private letters are in a good many instances, if not in all, not very illuminating. To be sure he must talk politics and enlarge upon the vices of those "born and educated among us"; he cannot write to a friend congratulating him on the appearance of a new daughter in the family without leaving the domestic question as soon as decency permits to remind the young father that he should now be more interested than ever in the cause of liberty. The truth is, however, that Samuel was less garrulous and less vain than John, but more wily. He did not care to communicate his political opinions freely to his dear Betsy, as did John to his Portia. In fact even of his conjugal opinions he was chary: "You will believe, my dear Betsy, without the formality of my repeating it to you, that I am, most affectionately." We should much like to know something of the real situation at Philadelphia from the time when Adams first went there till Howe marched in. But you get the slightest comfort from these letters. He probably had the politician's shrewd dislike of writing when isolated oral communication was possible. Probably, too, the story told by John Adams is true: "The letters he wrote and received—where are they? I have seen him at Mrs. Yard's in Philadelphia, when he was about to leave Congress, cut up with his scissors whole bundles of letters in atoms that could never be reunited and throw them out of the window to be scattered by the winds. This was in summer when there was no fire."

Malignant as Adams was, untiring in his denunciation of Hutchinson and unwearied in his endeavor to keep alive resentment to what he considered tyranny, there is no more evidence here than in the earlier volumes that he was far ahead of the other radicals in his desire for independence. In a letter to Arthur Lee, written April 9, 1773, there

is a possible intimation of coming independence; but another year passes before even in his correspondence with Lee he indulges in open threat of separation: "And if the British administration and government do not return to the principles of moderation and equity, the evil which they profess to aim at preventing by their rigorous measures, will the sooner be brought to pass, viz: *the entire separation and independence of the colonies*" (p. 100). As late as this, April, 1774, he was speaking of reconciliation, based on the acquisition of an explicit bill of rights. Even in January, 1775, he declared in a letter to Lee that he earnestly hoped that Lord North "would no longer listen to the Voice of Faction". In short the evidence from these papers appears to be conclusive that far from plotting for independence as early as 1768, as is commonly said on the authority of Wells, he was until 1775 desirous of continuing the union, if it could be maintained on principles that appeared to him just.

A. C. McLAUGHLIN.

Judah P. Benjamin. By PIERCE BUTLER. [American Crisis Biographies.] (Philadelphia: George W. Jacobs and Company. 1907. Pp. 459.)

It does not often happen that a book designed to form part of a popular historical series is of great use to the special student of history. The present work is such an exception, and may be commended from both points of view.

Prominent as Benjamin was throughout his active public life, its records present a very unsatisfactory account. Though no recluse, he had no intimate friend whose testimony would be of value in revealing the real personality of this man whose exterior was more than usually illusive; and his extreme care to destroy all letters and personal data forces the student to seek the man in the contradictory public records of his political and legal career. These sources of information are widely scattered and not easily accessible. Mr. Butler's life is the first published attempt to collate all available material and to present the career of the great lawyer and politician as a whole and in detail. The thoroughness with which the work has been done will make this book an excellent guide to the original investigator. The general reader, for whom it is primarily intended, will find it readable and entertaining as well as full of important matter that is likely to be new to him.

Many students will be grateful for the author's researches among the New Orleans newspapers which cover the important political period during the twenty years that precede the Civil War. Here, in the local history of Louisiana, is reproduced with great distinctness an image in miniature of the vast political struggle which foreran the crisis in national affairs. Benjamin's active part in local contests and constitutional conventions is typical of his whole political course. Mr. Butler's account is admirable; but it is doubtful whether he has been